

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 12, 13, and 15 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 12, 13, and 15 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter the Applicant regards as the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 14-21 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Kolb et al. (U.S. Patent No. US 2005/0059543A1) in combination with Ho et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2002/0106943A1). The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 9-12, and 14-21 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Liu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,204,350B1) in combination with Ho et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2005/0106493A1). The Applicant respectfully traverses. The cited references fail to teach or render obvious all of the elements of the Applicant's claimed invention. In particular, the cited references fail to teach the element of independent claims 1 and 9 of "*a carborane-based group, wherein the carborane-based group is functionalized on a carbon atom by a group that modifies the polarity of the anionic carborane.*" This element as amended incorporates the subject matter of original claim 7. In the Office Action dated 09/16/2005 the Examiner stated that the claim 7 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and that Liu does not teach or suggest the carborane-based groups of claims 2-7. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims 1 and 9 as amended, and the claims that depend upon and incorporate the limitations of claims 1 and 9, are in condition for allowance.

Petition for Extension of Time Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)

Applicant respectfully petitions pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) for a one-month extension of time to file this response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2005. The extended period is set to expire on January 16, 2006. A check in the amount of \$120.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for a one-month extension of time.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a)(3), applicant(s) hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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